

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment is filed to advance prosecution after filing of an RCE on July 1, 2005.

The specification has been amended to recite subject matter that was disclosed and described in claims 1-20 in the application as originally filed. Because this subject matter was present as of the original filing date, the amendment introduces no new matter.

Claims 21-44 are pending in this application. Claims 21, 27, 35 and 43 are independent.

Claims 41-42 and 44 have been added to more clearly recite specific embodiments of the invention. Applicant respectfully notes that the addition of these new claims in no way restricts the scope of the claims from which they depend, which cover, among other embodiments, embodiments where the indicia or values are provided on or within the spheres so that they are visible on or within the spheres.


It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added by these amendments.

The claims distinguish the cited prior art for reasons discussed in the Response of April 29, 2005, which was incorporated by reference in the July 1, 2005 RCE. Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and Applicant requests that the application be passed to issue in due course.

A fee transmittal with a check for \$200.00 has been enclosed to cover the additional claims added by this amendment. No other fees are believed due with the submission of this amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

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